Notification pubiished in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary dated November 28, 1996. Since its constitution, the Department of Culture have taken a number of initiatives of operationalise the NCF. These include constitution of the bodies, as provided for in the Notification, for the management of the NCF; publicising the NCF through consultations with the representatives of the community and the corporate sector, through letters to a large number of individuals and institutions and formulation of a strategy for actualising the goals of the NCF. These initiatives have led to a better response to the NCF and the prospect of contributions to it is looking up. Besides the contributions mentioned in the 'news-item', the NCF has also received Rs. 5 lakhs from the oberoi Group of Hotels, New Delhi. The Department of Culture's contribution to the NCF has so far been Rs. 2 crores released in the year 1996-97. The Notification that sets up the NCF provides that in addition to this contribution, assets of the NCF shall inter alia include Rs. 17 crores and 50 lakhs to be provided out of the plan budget of the Department of Culture, Government of India. As regards tax exemption on contributions to the NCF, the present position is that the donations/contributions to the NCF will be eligible for deduction under Section 80 G of the Income Tax Act 1961 to the limits and conditions prescribed in the said Section and prescribed Rules.

(c) The NCF though set up on 23.11.96 was formally launched on 29.3.97. It has thus effectively completed about eight months of its existence. This is a rather small period for an organisation that is expected to innovate on the Indian culture scene on a wide range. In fact the NCF is yet to be considered in its formative phase needing systemic support of the Department of Culture. However, the NCF has covered the preparatory ground rapidly and seems at the threshold of a self-sustaining momentum. The Department of Culture is, therefore, reasonably optimistic about the future and success of the NCF.

Linking of Himalayan Rivers with Southern Rivers

907. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Commission has been set up to prepare an integrated plan for the development of country's water resources;

(b) if so, the scope of the functioning of the Commission;

(c) whether the Commission has been entrusted with the task to prepare an operational plan to line Himalayan rivers with Southern rivers; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) A Natinal Commission for preparing Integrated Water Resources Development Plan has been set up by the Government of India on 13.9.96 Dr. S.R. Hashim, Member, Planning Commission is the present Chairman.

(b) to (d) The terms of reference of the Commission are :

1. To prepare an integrated water plan for development of water resources for drinking, irrigation, industrial, flood control and other uses.
2. To suggest modalities for transfer of surplus water to water deficit basin by interlinking of rivers for achieving the above objective.
3. To identify important ongoing projects as well as new projects which should be completed on priority basis together with phasing.
4. Identify a technological and interdisciplinary research plan for the water sector with a view to maximise the benefits.
5. To suggest physical and financial resources generation strategies for the water sector.
6. Any other related issue.

The terms of reference No. 2 above also covers study to link Himalayan rivers with Southern rivers.

Development of Tourism Industry

908. SHRI T.GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plan to offer tourist activities to cooperative sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) to (c) The tourism enterprises are mostly in the private sector and the co-operative sector can also take up tourism activities. However, there are no special plans exclusively for co-operatives in the tourism sector.

11.28 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fourteen of the Clock

[English]

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Fourteen of the Clock.

(MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair)*

(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (CALCUTTA SOUTH): Sir, I have submitted a notice for a No-Confidence Motion. May I know what happened to that, Sir?...*(Interruptions)*

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM (TIRUCHENGODE): Sir, we have submitted a notice for a discussion under Rule 193... *(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, I have submitted a notice for a No-Confidence Motion...*(Interruptions)* We will not allow any other business to be transacted now ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Papers to be laid on the Table of the House.

14.01 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Annual Report and Review of the working of Mazagaon Dock Limited, Mumbai for the year 1996-97

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV): I beg to lay on the Table:

A Copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of Companies Act, 1956:

(i) Review by the Government of the working of the Mazagon Dock Limited, Mumbai for the Year 1996-97.

(ii) Annual Report of the Mazagon Dock Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2390/97]

Annual Report and review on the working of Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, New Delhi for the year 1996-97

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): On behalf of Shri Murasoli Maran, I beg to lay on the Table:

A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English varsions) under Sub-section (I) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:

(1) Statement regarding review by the Government of the working of the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

(2) Annual Report of the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, New Delhi for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 2391/97]

Annual Reports of the Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi for the year 1995-96 and statement showing reasons for delay in laying the Papers etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): On behalf of Shri P. Chidambaram, I beg to lay on the Table:

(1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre of Policy Research, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Pieced in Library. See No. LT 2392/97]

(3) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Madras School of Economics, Madras, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Pieced in Library. See No. LT 2393/97]

(5) A copy each of the following Annual Reports (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (8) of section 10 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and 1980:

(i) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of Allahabad for the year 1996-97, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2394/97]

(ii) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of Maharashtra for the year 1996-97, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2395/97]

(iii) Report on the working and activities of the Central Bank of India for the year 1996-97, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2396/97]

(iv) Report on the working and activities of the Indian Bank for the year 1996-97, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2397/97]

(v) Report on the working and activities of the Indian Overseas Bank for the year 1996-97, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2398/97].

(vi) Report on the working and activities of the Punjab Nantionl Bank for the year 1996-97, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2399/97]